REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are now pending in the application. Claims 1-20 stand rejected. Claims 21 and 22 are added. Claims 1, 2, and 15 are amended. Claim 20 is also amended to correct a typographical error. Support for the amendments to claims 1, 2, and 15 and addition of claims 21 and 22 can be found in the originally filed specification at paragraphs 11-13. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-9, 11, 13, and 14-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over De Armas et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,873.064) in view of Davis (U.S. Pat. No. 6,816,837). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

De Armas et al. is generally directed toward a multi-action voice macro method. In particular, the Examiner relies on De Armas et al. to teach identifying a menu location in the form of a sub-context object or window object. However, De Armas et al. do not teach, suggest, or motivate identifying a user-selected navigation path through a menu structure to a first location within the menu in response to user navigation to the first location via sequential manipulation of a manual user interface of the electronic product.

Davis is generally directed toward voice macros for scanner control. In particular, the Examiner relies on Davis to teach that a user can create voice macros incorporating individual voice commands by speaking several predefined voice commands in order to define a sequence of steps and providing a new voice command for enacting the sequence. However, Davis does not teach, suggest, or motivate identifying a user-selected navigation path through a menu structure to a first location

within the menu in response to user navigation to the first location via sequential manipulation of a manual user interface of the electronic product.

Applicant's claimed invention is directed toward identifying a user-selected navigation path through a menu structure to a first location within the menu in response to user navigation to the first location via sequential manipulation of a manual user interface of the electronic product. For example, independent claim 2, especially as amended, recites, "identifying a user-selected navigation path through said menu structure to a first location within said menu in response to user navigation to said first location via sequential manipulation of a manual user interface of said electronic product." Independent claims 1 and 15, as amended, recite similar subject matter. Thus, De Armas et al. and Davis do not teach all of the limitations of the independent claims. These differences are significant.

The differences between Applicants' claimed invention and the combination suggested by the Examiner are significant because Applicants' claimed invention is capable of allowing the user to specify the location without having to speak several predefined voice commands. This capability is important because requiring successful recognition of all voice commands in a sequence as taught by Davis can lead to difficulties. These difficulties are not alleviated by the teachings of De Armas et al. Therefore, allowing the user to identify a menu structure location for voice binding by sequentially navigating to that location via a manual user interface is significant.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 2, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), along with rejection on these grounds of all claims dependent therefrom.

Claims 10, 12 and 19-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over De Armas et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,873.064) in view of of Davis (U.S. Pat. No. 6,816,837) and Croft (U.S. Pat. No. 6,493,670 B1). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

De Armas et al. is generally directed toward a multi-action voice macro method. In particular, the Examiner relies on De Armas et al. to teach identifying a menu location in the form of a sub-context object or window object. However, De Armas et al. do not teach, suggest, or motivate identifying a user-selected navigation path through a menu structure to a first location within the menu in response to user navigation to the first location via sequential manipulation of a manual user interface of the electronic product.

Davis is generally directed toward voice macros for scanner control. In particular, the Examiner relies on Davis to teach that a user can create voice macros incorporating individual voice commands by speaking several predefined voice commands in order to define a sequence of steps and providing a new voice command for enacting the sequence. However, Davis does not teach, suggest, or motivate identifying a user-selected navigation path through a menu structure to a first location within the menu in response to user navigation to the first location via sequential manipulation of a manual user interface of the electronic product.

Croft is generally directed toward transmitting DTMF signals employing local speech recognition. In particular, the Examiner relies on Croft to teach storing a user utterance as audio data and replaying the audio data to the user. However, Croft does not teach, suggest, or motivate identifying a user-selected navigation path through a menu structure to a first location within the menu in response to user navigation to the

first location via sequential manipulation of a manual user interface of the electronic product.

The differences between Applicants' claimed invention and the combination suggested by the Examiner are significant because Applicants' claimed invention is capable of allowing the user to specify the location without having to speak several predefined voice commands. This capability is important because requiring successful recognition of all voice commands in a sequence as taught by Davis can lead to difficulties. These difficulties are not alleviated by the teachings of De Armas et al. Therefore, allowing the user to identify a menu structure location for voice binding by sequentially navigating to that location via a manual user interface is significant.
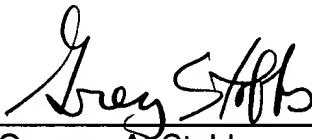
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 10, 12, and 19-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), in view of their dependence from allowable base claims 2 and 15.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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